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Integration and coordination of efforts by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and Member States in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice: ratification and implementation of the international instruments to prevent and combat terrorism

Assistance in implementing the international conventions and protocols related to terrorism

Report of the Secretary-General

Summary

The present report reviews progress made during 2013 the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, in particular by its Terrorism Prevention Branch, in delivering technical assistance in the area of counter-terrorism. The report highlights efforts made and challenges faced in adequately responding to the evolving needs of Member States regarding the criminal justice aspects of countering terrorism, and emphasizes the need for enhanced governmental support to meet those challenges. The report concludes with a set of recommendations for consideration by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice.

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I. Introduction

1. The present report covers the activities undertaken during 2013 by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), in particular its Terrorism Prevention Branch, in providing assistance to Member States for implementing the international legal instruments to prevent and combat terrorism.

2. During the period under review, the mandate of UNODC regarding counter-terrorism technical assistance was reiterated by the General Assembly in resolutions 68/187, on technical assistance for implementing the international conventions and protocols related to counter-terrorism, resolutions 67/99 and 68/119, on measures to eliminate international terrorism, resolutions 67/189 and 68/193, on strengthening the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme, in particular its technical cooperation capacity, and resolution 68/178, on protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism.

II. Delivering technical assistance

3. The Office provides legal and capacity-building assistance to requesting Member States that is aimed at strengthening the capacity of their criminal justice systems to prevent and combat terrorism. Since January 2003, 169 Member States have been supported by the Terrorism Prevention Branch in ratifying and implementing the 18 international legal instruments to prevent and combat terrorism and in strengthening the capacity of national criminal justice systems to effectively implement those instruments in conformity with the rule of law.

4. In 2013, UNODC continued to provide legal technical assistance to requesting Member States for the ratification and legislative incorporation of the provisions of those instruments into national legislation. This work contributed to 24 new ratifications of the international legal instruments to prevent and combat terrorism, and led to the preparation of 16 new or revised pieces of national counter-terrorism legislation.

5. In addition, mindful of the fact that the capacity of national criminal justice officials to apply the relevant legislation in their daily work is fundamental to effectively preventing and combating terrorism, the Branch further strengthened its capacity-building work. It focused on further enhancing the knowledge and practices of national criminal justice systems with regard to investigating, prosecuting and adjudicating terrorism cases, as well as their capacity to cooperate regionally and internationally. In 2013, UNODC provided capacity-building assistance to 83 Member States worldwide, through 93 workshops (at the national, subregional and regional levels) and trained more than 2,500 criminal justice officials.

6. The 2012 structural reorganization of the Terrorism Prevention Branch into three geographical sections, with focal points on thematic areas in each section, has continued to prove its effectiveness in ensuring a greater focus on the implementation of the mandate of UNODC from a regional perspective, and in removing any artificial separation between the regional and thematic work of the Office. Headquarters has continued to provide leadership and strategic guidance to

implement a coherent programme of activities throughout the world, substantive and specialized expertise, and policy coordination. Field counter-terrorism experts located in North, West and East Africa, in Yemen, in Central, South and South-East Asia and in Latin America have continued to provide local expertise and operational capacity to support the development of in-depth country and regional programmes, as well as the implementation of UNODC counter-terrorism activities on the ground.

A. Technical assistance activities

7. The objective of UNODC counter-terrorism activities is to strengthen the universal legal regime against terrorism. This is achieved through: (a) promoting the ratification of the 18 international legal instruments to prevent and combat terrorism and assisting Member States with the incorporation of the provisions of those instruments into national legislation; (b) building the capacity of national officials to implement counter-terrorism legislation; and (c) promoting regional and international cooperation in criminal matters. These activities form the basis of building an effective criminal justice response to terrorism.

1. Ratification and legislative incorporation of the international legal instruments

8. In 2013, UNODC continued to provide legislative assistance and ratification assistance to Member States upon request. In particular, national legislative drafting workshops were held in Kazakhstan (30 and 31 January), Kyrgyzstan (24 and 25 April), the Lao People's Democratic Republic (25-27 February), Panama (27-30 May), Paraguay (7-9 May), Tajikistan (21 and 22 January), Tunisia (24-26 July), Turkmenistan (20-24 May) and Yemen (24, 25, 27 and 28 February). Afghanistan, Cambodia, Indonesia, Malaysia, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, Solomon Islands and Thailand were also provided with legislative assistance relating to the incorporation of the provisions of the international legal instruments into domestic legislation. Furthermore, UNODC provided legislative assistance to the Lao People's Democratic Republic and Nicaragua during the legislative drafting activities related to countering terrorism financing that were organized by the World Bank from 4 to 8 March and from 15 to 19 April in Managua and from 30 September to 4 October in Vientiane.

9. The Branch made use of cost-effective telecommunications facilities, in preparation for or follow-up to on-the-ground activities, and electronic communications, for the provision of ad hoc legal advice.

10. In 2013, 24 new ratifications were concluded by assisted countries, and 16 new or revised pieces of national counter-terrorism legislation were prepared with the assistance of UNODC.

2. Capacity-building

11. In response to the increased demand for counter-terrorism legal technical assistance, UNODC has continued to assist Member States in building and strengthening the capacities of their criminal justice systems to apply the provisions of the 18 international legal instruments to prevent and combat terrorism.

12. To this end, UNODC has continued to work closely with representatives and experts of recipient countries. In addition to formal communications pursued through the permanent missions in Vienna, Geneva and New York and ministries of foreign affairs, extensive consultations and working-level contacts have been carried out with concerned ministries and with judicial and prosecutorial services to ensure full ownership of the programmes by recipient countries.

13. The Office worked in close cooperation with the national authorities of requesting Member States, including Afghanistan, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Libya, Montenegro, Nigeria, Somalia, Tunisia and Yemen, to help develop and implement tailored counter-terrorism activity plans.

14. National, regional and international capacity-building workshops for criminal justice officials on a wide range of criminal justice topics related to the investigation, prosecution and adjudication of terrorist cases were organized, inter alia, in Afghanistan, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Colombia, Djibouti, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Libya, Mauritania, Montenegro, Morocco, Nigeria, Panama, the Philippines, Senegal, Solomon Islands, Tajikistan, Tunisia, Viet Nam and Yemen.

15. The Terrorism Prevention Branch, in response to the increasingly complex nature of terrorism, has continued to develop capacity-building training for investigators, prosecutors and judges on a broader range of terrorism-related offences. This assistance is meant to provide Member States with the specialized skills required to effectively investigate, prosecute and adjudicate terrorism cases. Such technical assistance is an integral part of the national and regional training that UNODC provides to Member States, often in close cooperation with relevant United Nations agencies and partner organizations.

(a) Countering the use of the Internet for terrorist purposes

16. The Office, in response to the growing need by Member States for technical assistance related to the use of the Internet for terrorist purposes, has continued to strengthen its efforts to enhance the capacity of law enforcement and criminal justice practitioners worldwide to address this threat.

17. Following the 2012 launch of its technical assistance tool on the use of the Internet for terrorist purposes, the Branch has utilized that tool in several of its technical assistance activities. The tool has proved to be effective in providing practical guidance for policymakers, investigators, judges and prosecutors on effective criminal justice responses to cases involving the use of the Internet for terrorist purposes. Practitioners found the actual judicial cases in which the Internet was the key tool for the commission of a terrorist act, contained in this tool, to be a very useful source of reference. For example, the Branch organized a national workshop for criminal justice officers on special investigative techniques relating to digital communication channels (wireless, local area network (LAN), Skype and Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP)) in Rabat from 21 to 23 January 2013.

18. Throughout 2013, the Branch participated in several conferences and workshops related to the use of the Internet for terrorist purposes and used those opportunities to present this tool and the related work of UNODC to Member States and to regional and other international organizations. Such opportunities included:

(a) A regional workshop on countering radicalization, organized by the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Regional Forum and hosted by Japan and Malaysia, held in Tokyo on 4 and 5 February;

(b) The special event of the Counter-Terrorism Committee with Member States on countering terrorism through the use of new communications and information technologies, held in New York on 24 May.

(b) Improving the assistance and support provided to victims of acts of terrorism and the criminal justice response in support of such victims

19. By adopting, in 2006, the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy (General Assembly resolution 60/288), Member States acknowledged for the first time that the provision of support and assistance to victims of terrorism was an important component of an effective terrorism prevention strategy. The Assembly reaffirmed that position in subsequent resolutions such as resolutions 64/168, 66/178 and 68/193. In response, in 2013 the Terrorism Prevention Branch further strengthened its assistance to requesting Member States in building their legal and judicial capacity to address the needs of victims of terrorism during criminal justice proceedings.

20. As part of its ongoing efforts in support of victims of terrorism, the Branch, in cooperation with the Victims of Terrorism Foundation, organized a literary-photographic exhibition, entitled "100 reflections out of sorrow", in remembrance and support of victims of terrorism from all over the world, in the Vienna International Centre from 23 April to 3 May. On 23 April, the Branch held a panel discussion on victims of terrorism, in cooperation with the Permanent Mission of Spain. Panellists included Ben Emmerson, the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism, who presented his 2012 report on the framework principles for securing the human rights of victims of terrorism.

21. Building upon its training tool on the criminal justice response to support victims of acts of terrorism, launched in 2011 to help Member States strengthen the implementation of legislation and policies that support and protect victims of terrorism, the Branch organized several technical assistance activities, including:

(a) A regional workshop on strengthening criminal justice responses for the protection and support of witnesses and victims in criminal proceedings related to terrorism, held in Kathmandu on 7 and 8 October and jointly organized with the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate;

(b) A national workshop on strengthening legal and institutional measures related to the support of victims of terrorism, held in Kabul on 3 and 4 November and aimed at strengthening existing legal and institutional measures related to the support of victims of acts of terrorism;

(c) An international workshop on promoting and strengthening international cooperation relating to the protection and support of victims of acts of terrorism,

held in Abu Dhabi from 17 to 19 December and jointly organized with the Hedayah centre;

(d) The Branch also participated in a workshop for the South-East Asia subregion on first-response support to victims in the immediate aftermath of an attack, organized by the Global Counterterrorism Forum and held in Bali, Indonesia, from 16 to 18 September.

22. The Branch is committed to continuing to expand its work in building an effective criminal justice response to support victims of terrorist acts. It has commenced the preparation of best practices, in close coordination with Member States, on assistance to and support for victims of terrorism, including the role of victims within the criminal justice framework, as per General Assembly resolution 68/187.

(c) Countering chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear terrorism

23. In 2013, the Branch continued to provide assistance to requesting Member States with regard to the ratification and implementation of the international instruments dealing with chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear terrorism, in close cooperation with relevant stakeholders.

24. The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime organized two workshops for selected African States on promotion of the ratification and implementation of the 2005 Amendment to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material and the 2005 International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism. One workshop was held in Dakar on 5 and 6 June, and the other was held in Nairobi on 15 and 16 October. Recognizing the importance of cooperation and synergies in that area, UNODC invited the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004), the African Union, the Institute for Security Studies and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) to both events.

25. As part of its ongoing cooperation with IAEA, UNODC was part of the programme committee of the IAEA International Conference on Nuclear Security: Enhancing Global Efforts, held from 1 to 5 July, and made a presentation at the panel discussion on implementing and enhancing the international nuclear security framework. On 7 and 8 November, UNODC participated in an IAEA workshop on the 2005 Amendment to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material for francophone African countries, held in Brussels. The Office gave a lecture on the legal aspects of nuclear terrorism as part of the master's programme in nuclear security, led by IAEA at the Brandenburg University of Technology on 7 and 8 March, and continued to contribute to the IAEA International Nuclear Security Education Network. It also participated in the IAEA nuclear security information exchange meetings held in Vienna and in the IAEA General Conference held from 16 to 20 September, also in Vienna.

26. The Office has continued to further strengthen its work with the 1540 Committee. In particular, it undertook the following activities: provided technical assistance to a Member State in response to its request to the Committee for assistance; participated in a civil society forum on Security Council resolution 1540 (2004), held in Vienna from 8 to 10 January; and participated in a workshop on effective national practices in the implementation of Security Council resolution 1540 (2004), held in Zagreb on 19 and 20 September, and in a workshop

for African States on the implementation of that resolution, held in Addis Ababa on 10 and 11 December.

27. The Office is working with Cambodia, Indonesia, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia and the Philippines, in cooperation with the Federal Office of Economics and Export Control of Germany and the Verification Research, Training and Information Centre, on a project on prerequisites to strengthening chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear national legal frameworks under the Centres of Excellence initiative of the European Union. The Office also participated in the expert meeting on a national legislation implementation kit on nuclear security, held in Yogyakarta, Indonesia, on 20 and 21 November.

28. In its capacity as an official observer to the Global Initiative to Combat Nuclear Terrorism, UNODC participated in several events organized by the Global Initiative, including the technical meeting of its Implementation and Assessment Group, held in Madrid from 19 to 22 February, and the plenary meeting and annual meeting of the Group, held in Mexico City on 23 and 24 May.

29. The Office participated in three meetings of the Global Partnership against the Spread of Weapons and Materials of Mass Destruction (6-8 February, 10-14 June and 22-24 October), all held in London, and briefed members of the Partnership and participating international organizations on the work of UNODC in preventing chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear terrorism.

30. The Office participated in a legal review and legislative drafting national workshop on the prosecution of cases involving nuclear and radiological smuggling, held in Dushanbe on 12 and 13 March, and in a donors' conference on countering nuclear smuggling, held in Tbilisi on 20 and 21 June, both organized by the United States of America.

31. From 28 February to 1 March, the Branch participated in a national round table on recommendations for implementation of universal anti-terrorism instruments related to nuclear terrorism and maritime terrorism, organized by the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) in Bishkek.

(d) Suppressing the financing of terrorism

32. The Office worked to provide legal and capacity-building assistance to counter the financing of terrorism. Specific initiatives were built around awareness-raising, institution building and the delivery of technical assistance and training at the national and regional levels. In 2013, such activities included:

(a) A regional workshop on best practices for the investigation and prosecution of terrorism financing cases, held in Medan, Indonesia, from 28 January to 1 February. The event was co-sponsored by the South-East Asia working group of the Global Counterterrorism Forum, the National Counter-Terrorism Agency of Indonesia and the Indonesian Financial Transaction Reports and Analysis Centre, in addition to UNODC;

(b) A workshop on the promotion of cooperation between Afghanistan and Pakistan in preventing and combating the financing of terrorism, organized in Abu Dhabi from 17 to 19 September;

(c) A regional workshop on mutual legal assistance between Yemen and Horn of Africa countries on the financing of terrorism cases, held in Nairobi from 5 to 7 November;

(d) Focused national-level workshops for prosecutors and judges on investigating, prosecuting and adjudicating cases related to the financing of terrorism and related issues, held in, among other places, Algeria (5-8 March), Bolivia (Plurinational State of) (28 October-1 November), Cambodia (25-29 March, 1-5 April, 10-14 June, 21-23 August and 26-28 August), Colombia (29 January-1 February, 6-8 March, 2-5 April, 8-12 April, 8-10 May, 27-31 May, 22 July and 9-13 December), Kazakhstan (7 and 8 November), Kyrgyzstan (4 and 5 November), the Lao People's Democratic Republic (25-27 February), Mongolia (1-3 October), Montenegro (8-10 October), Panama (29 and 30 May), the Philippines (21-27 May), Tajikistan (11 and 12 November), Viet Nam (4-8 November and 11-15 November) and Yemen (15-22 November).

33. In addition, UNODC participated in two Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate regional workshops on the freezing requirement of Security Council resolution 1373 (2001), one held in Bangkok from 2 to 4 December and another in Freeport, the Bahamas, from 22 to 24 November. The Office also participated in several expert working group meetings on preventing the abuse of the non-profit sector for the purposes of financing terrorism, including one held in Doha from 15 to 17 January and another held in New York from 5 to 7 March, organized jointly with the Global Counterterrorism Forum.

34. Throughout 2013, the Branch, which is in charge of promoting the ratification and full implementation of the International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism, worked closely with the UNODC Global Programme against Money-Laundering, Proceeds of Crime and the Financing of Terrorism on the operational aspects of countering the financing of terrorism. For example, an advanced training session on investigative techniques relating to countering money-laundering and the financing of terrorism was organized, jointly with the Global Programme, in Phnom Penh from 25 to 29 March.

(e) Addressing transport-related (civil aviation and maritime) terrorism offences

35. Violent acts against aircraft and ships, their passengers, cargo or crew, or against airports and seaports, are regarded as serious terrorist threats. Effective legal regimes and adequate criminal justice responses are essential foundational measures necessary to prevent and counter terrorist acts against means of transportation. Providing practitioners with tools specifically tailored to address the criminalization of acts and the applicability of laws with respect to terrorism and transportation is therefore necessary to strengthen criminal justice capacities in these important thematic areas.

36. To that end, UNODC has developed a new module on transport-related (civil aviation and maritime) terrorism offences. The module covers a key component of the counter-terrorism legal framework, since 11 of the 18 international instruments to prevent and combat terrorism have been adopted specifically to address crimes involving international civil aviation or maritime navigation. The module is designed to analyse and explain the application of the provisions of those instruments to assist policymakers with the ratification of such instruments,

especially the international instruments relating to maritime security (adopted in 2005) and civil aviation (adopted in 2010). It is also intended to assist Member States in incorporating the related international legal provisions into national legislation and to support criminal justice officials in implementing those provisions effectively. The module has been developed in consultation with the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) and the International Maritime Organization (IMO). A workshop of experts for the peer review of the draft module was held in Vienna from 18 to 20 November.

(f) Criminal justice responses to terrorism in the framework of the rule of law and respect for human rights

37. In accordance with the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, as well as several General Assembly and Security Council resolutions, all UNODC technical assistance activities seek to reinforce the principle that effective counter-terrorism measures and respect for the rule of law and human rights standards are complementary and mutually reinforcing goals.

38. The Office fully integrates international human rights norms and standards into all aspects of its work, including when providing legislative assistance to requesting Member States. As part of its efforts to reinforce the human rights dimensions of its technical assistance activities, UNODC has developed a module on human rights and criminal justice responses to terrorism as part of its counter-terrorism legal training curriculum. The module examines human rights questions that typically arise during the various stages of the criminal justice process with regard to terrorism cases, such as the criminalization of terrorist acts in legislation, investigations, the detention of suspects, trials and the punishment of defendants found guilty. It contains related good practices from Member States and analysis of cases decided by international human rights bodies on issues that arise in the context of counter-terrorism and criminal justice. This new tool will contribute to enhancing the ability of national law enforcement and criminal justice training institutions worldwide to effectively deliver training on the human rights aspects of preventing and combating terrorism. This module has been developed in close cooperation with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR). A workshop of experts for the peer review of the draft module was held in Vienna from 21 to 23 October.

39. In 2013, UNODC commenced a project component on strengthening national capacity to apply human rights norms, standards and good practices in countering terrorism. The project focuses on assisting countries in the Sahel, West and East Africa and Yemen. It seeks to promote the application in terrorism cases of international human rights norms, standards and good practices in criminal justice. The activities envisaged include providing legal assistance to assist in the drafting of human-rights-compliant counter-terrorism legislation, developing and disseminating specialized tools, delivering training sessions on human rights in countering terrorism and supporting national training institutions in integrating human rights and counter-terrorism aspects into their curricula.

40. In 2013, the Branch organized several national and regional training workshops focused on respecting human rights and the rule of law while countering terrorism, including:

(a) A national workshop on human rights, fundamental freedoms and preventive criminal offences, held in Sana'a from 9 to 12 June;

(b) A regional workshop on "Counter-terrorism preventive offences: investigation and prosecution while respecting human rights and the rule of law", organized jointly by the Global Counterterrorism Forum and UNODC in Bangkok on 12 and 13 November;

(c) A national workshop on human rights and criminal justice responses to terrorism, held in the city of Djibouti from 15 to 18 December.

(g) Developing specialized technical assistance tools

41. Since 2003, the Branch has developed many technical assistance tools, including practical guides, handbooks, manuals and counter-terrorism legal training modules. These tools are used as an integral part of UNODC capacity-building activities. In addition, they have proven to be very useful as reference guides for practitioners. Most of these tools are available in the six official languages of the United Nations, and many have been translated into various national languages.

42. The Electronic Legal Resources on International Terrorism database (www.unodc.org/tldb) is accessible to the public and contains the domestic counter-terrorism legislation of over 150 Member States, classified according to whether the legislation concerns substantive criminal law, procedural law or international cooperation in criminal matters. It also contains the texts of international legal instruments and their ratification status, a list of counter-terrorism conventions adopted by regional organizations, and relevant case law.

43. The *Digest of Terrorist Cases* continues to be used in training and provides policymakers, criminal justice officials and investigative police officers with practical guidance through the analysis of actual terrorist cases.

44. *The Criminal Justice Response to Support Victims of Acts of Terrorism* and *The Use of the Internet for Terrorist Purposes*, following their launch in 2011 and 2012, respectively, have been extensively used for capacity-building activities.

45. Following the 2012 piloting of two new technical assistance tools — a mock trial on terrorism, terrorist financing and linkages to serious related crimes, and a simulated criminal investigation — the Branch has continued to use these tools in its training activities. These innovative training tools are aimed at strengthening the capacities of criminal justice and law enforcement practitioners to investigate, prosecute and adjudicate terrorism-related offences by providing an opportunity to simulate trials that are based on real-life scenarios, adjusted to the particular structure, legal code and circumstances of each country or region.

46. To ensure sustainability, UNODC developed a counter-terrorism legal training curriculum that allows access by Member States to its specialized knowledge in a more systematic way. The curriculum employs a train-the-trainer approach in order to transfer to national criminal justice officials the knowledge and expertise needed

to strengthen their capacity to implement the universal legal framework against terrorism, as well as to facilitate incorporation by Member States of the UNODC legal counter-terrorism training programme into national training curricula. To date, four modules have been developed, on the following topics: the universal legal framework against terrorism; international cooperation in criminal matters related to terrorism; transport-related (civil aviation and maritime) terrorism offences; and human rights and criminal justice responses to terrorism.

47. The online Counter-Terrorism Learning Platform, launched by UNODC in 2011, continued to be extensively utilized for capacity-building training. The Platform is an interactive tool specifically designed to provide tailor-made training to criminal justice and law enforcement officials involved in the fight against terrorism, while bringing together practitioners involved in counter-terrorism to form a single worldwide community to share their experiences. In 2013, the Branch delivered three six-week online courses, training 78 practitioners from Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Mauritania, the Niger, Nigeria, Senegal and Tunisia. In addition, 17 live events — real-time discussions with counter-terrorism experts on various legal counter-terrorism topics — were carried out by the Branch in English and French.

(h) Providing technical assistance in close cooperation with national training institutions and other bodies

48. The Office has continued to develop partnerships with national training institutions in an increasing number of Member States. Building on its successful comprehensive train-the-trainers programme for criminal justice officials in the Sahel, the Branch continued to carry out several train-the-trainers workshops in the region, including the following:

(a) A workshop on the universal legal framework against terrorism and its implementation, in partnership with the National Judicial Institute of Nigeria, held in Abuja from 18 to 20 March;

(b) A workshop on the universal legal framework against terrorism and international cooperation in criminal investigations for officials from Burkina Faso, held in Dakar from 25 to 28 June;

(c) A train-the-trainers workshop on the universal legal framework against terrorism and its implementation for officials from the Yemeni criminal justice system, held in Sana'a from 25 to 29 August;

(d) A train-the-trainers workshop for Chad and Senegal on the counter-terrorism universal legal framework, human rights and international cooperation, held in Dakar from 10 to 16 November.

49. In Afghanistan, the Branch continued to work with the country's Independent National Legal Training Centre to train trainers on substantive legal issues related to the universal legal framework against terrorism and effective training methodologies. Together with the Centre, UNODC organized a training workshop for criminal justice officials from across Afghanistan on the universal legal framework against terrorism, criminal investigation and international cooperation in criminal matters, which was held in Kabul from 25 to 27 February.

50. In South-East Asia, in partnership with UNODC, the Anti-Terrorism Council of the Philippines developed a long-term training programme for collaborative investigation and prosecution of terrorism-related cases. With support from UNODC, the Council developed six training modules and corresponding guides for trainers related to the investigation and prosecution of terrorist cases. The guides were launched and endorsed by the Government during an event on collaborative intelligence, investigation and prosecution of terrorism-related cases, held in Manila from 22 to 24 April.

3. Strengthening international cooperation in criminal matters pertaining to counter-terrorism

51. The Branch has been effectively supporting Member States to strengthen their cooperation in criminal matters by establishing mechanisms to help facilitate requests for mutual legal assistance and extradition, which play an essential role in the prosecution of terrorist cases that transcend national borders.

52. The Office continued to provide ongoing support and technical assistance for the strengthening of the regional judicial platform for the Sahel countries, established in 2010 with the participation of Burkina Faso, Mali, Mauritania and the Niger. This network of national focal points continued to prove its effectiveness in cooperating to facilitate extradition and mutual legal assistance in criminal matters. The fourth annual meeting of the regional judicial platform was held in Nouakchott from 28 to 30 October, with the participation of the League of Arab States (LAS) as an observer. Based on this successful experience, UNODC also developed a regional network of prosecutors and central authorities for members of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and Mauritania.

53. The Office also provided technical support to the annual meeting of the regional justice platform of the Indian Ocean Commission, a network of focal points for international cooperation in criminal matters among member States of the Commission, held in Antananarivo from 23 to 25 January.

54. Jointly with the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate, UNODC has launched a global project on building effective central authorities for international judicial cooperation in terrorism cases. This project is aimed at assisting Member States to establish effective systems of international cooperation in criminal matters and thus strengthen the capacity of criminal justice officials to prosecute and adjudicate terrorism cases. The project envisages regional meetings aimed at promoting the establishment of designated authorities to act as focal points for international cooperation in terrorism cases, as well as provide them with the necessary training. The project was launched in Cartagena, Colombia, from 19 to 21 February.

55. In 2013, the Branch provided focused assistance aimed at strengthening international cooperation in criminal matters related to counter-terrorism, including through:

(a) A subregional workshop for magistrates from Mauritania and Senegal on international cooperation in criminal matters, held in Dakar from 26 to 28 February;

(b) A regional workshop on the legal aspects related to the prevention of terrorism for the countries of the Gulf Cooperation Council and neighbouring

countries, held in Abu Dhabi from 21 to 23 May, in cooperation with the Hedayah centre;

(c) A subregional workshop for national prosecutors of Burkina Faso and the Niger on the investigation and prosecution of terrorism cases and on international cooperation mechanisms, held in Niamey from 7 to 11 October;

(d) A regional workshop on mutual legal assistance for Yemen and Horn of Africa countries in cases involving the financing of terrorism, held in Nairobi from 5 to 7 November;

(e) A regional workshop on sharing practices in international cooperation for the purpose of investigation, prosecution and adjudication of terrorism-related cases, held in Dushanbe from 10 to 12 December and jointly organized with OSCE.

56. Through the online Counter-Terrorism Learning Platform, the Branch delivered, jointly with the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL) from 12 April to 24 May, an online course on international criminal cooperation as a key tool in the fight against terrorism in the Sahel region to 24 criminal justice officials and members of INTERPOL national central bureaux from Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Mauritania, the Niger and Senegal.

B. Partnerships

57. Partnerships with entities of the United Nations system and subregional, regional and international organizations have contributed to enhanced coordination in the provision of assistance to Member States and cooperation in the delivery of technical assistance, including through several joint projects.

1. Participation in the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force

58. The Office actively participates in the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force, which brings together 30 United Nations entities and INTERPOL, thus ensuring that its counter-terrorism work is carried out in the broader context of United Nations system-wide efforts.

59. Throughout 2013, UNODC continued to contribute to the Integrated Assistance for Countering Terrorism initiative of the Task Force, which enables partnering Member States to address to Task Force entities their requests for assistance related to all four pillars of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy. On 26 and 27 June in Ouagadougou, the Branch participated in the stakeholders coordination meeting for Burkina Faso and the launch of an Integrated Assistance for Countering Terrorism project.

60. From 31 January to 1 February in Bogotá, the Branch participated in the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre International Conference on National and Regional Counter-Terrorism Strategies.

61. The Office continued its active work in a number of thematic working groups of the Task Force, including through participation in several videoconferences. From 15 to 16 April in Amman, the Branch participated in a Task Force workshop on identifying key needs and developing training best practices, organized by the Task Force working group on protecting human rights while countering terrorism.

62. The Office is a lead member of the working group on countering the use of the Internet for terrorist purposes and has continued to provide technical assistance, building on the technical assistance tool on the use of the Internet for terrorist purposes that was prepared in the context of the working group. It has also contributed to the Task Force working group on preventing and responding to terrorist attacks using weapons of mass destruction.

63. The Office participates in the working group on supporting and highlighting victims of terrorism and provides input on several initiatives of the working group, including in the development of a web portal that can be used as a forum for victims, experts, government officials, service providers and civil society to share information, resources and best practices on supporting victims of terrorism.

64. Together with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank, UNODC co-chairs the working group on tackling the financing of terrorism. From 15 to 17 November, the Branch participated in a regional working group meeting on preventing the abuse of the non-profit sector for the purposes of financing terrorism, organized under the umbrella of the working group and held in Doha.

65. On 2 and 3 December, UNODC attended the annual inter-agency coordination meeting of the Task Force, which focused on strengthening cooperation among Task Force entities in preventing and combating terrorism. At the Task Force quarterly briefing to Member States on 4 December, UNODC provided an update on its new training module on human rights and criminal justice responses to terrorism.

2. Cooperation with Security Council bodies dealing with counter-terrorism

66. The Office, through its Terrorism Prevention Branch, is actively coordinating and collaborating with the Counter Terrorism Committee and its Executive Directorate to prevent and combat terrorism. The Branch and the Committee and its Executive Directorate have different, but complementary, mandates. The Committee and its Executive Directorate are in charge of monitoring implementation of resolution 1373 (2001) and facilitating technical assistance, and the Branch is the key entity in the United Nations family delivering legal technical assistance to Member States.

67. During 2013, UNODC participated in country visits of the Committee and assisted requesting Member States in compiling their national reports for submission to the Counter-Terrorism Committee. The Committee and its Executive Directorate, in turn, provided guidance on countries in need of assistance and participated in UNODC activities, providing briefings on the role of the Committee and the priorities identified in Security Council resolution 1373 (2001).

68. During 2013, UNODC participated in visits of the Committee to Belarus (16-18 October), Guyana (4-8 October), Ireland (1-7 December), Japan (19-24 May), Mauritania (3-8 November), Morocco (11-15 March), Qatar (19-23 January), Serbia (17-21 March), Suriname (9-12 October) and Ukraine (21-23 October).

69. The Office took part in several activities of the Committee and its Executive Directorate, including the conference organized by the Executive Directorate with the Council of Europe, OSCE and LAS on the use of special investigation techniques in countering terrorism, held in Strasbourg on 14 and 15 May; the special

event of the Committee with Member States on countering terrorism through the use of new communications and information technologies, held in New York on 24 May; and the South-Eastern Europe workshop on the links between terrorism and organized crime, held in Antalya, Turkey, on 4 and 5 November, and organized by the Executive Directorate with the Southeast European Law Enforcement Centre, the Regional Cooperation Council, the Regional Arms Control Verification and Implementation Assistance Centre and the Turkish National Police.

70. The Office and the Executive Directorate are cooperating in the implementation, in their respective capacities, of several technical assistance joint projects: the strengthening of the capacity of countries in South Asia to support and protect victims and witnesses in terrorism cases; the building of effective central authorities for international judicial cooperation in terrorism cases; effective counter-terrorism investigations and prosecutions while respecting human rights and the rule of law in the Maghreb and in South Asia; and the partnership between Nigeria, the European Union, UNODC and the Executive Directorate on strengthening criminal justice responses for multidimensional security (terrorism).

71. Cooperation continued with the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolutions 1267 (1999) and 1989 (2011) concerning Al-Qaida and associated individuals and entities and its Analytical Support and Sanctions Monitoring Team, and with the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004) and its Group of Experts.

3. Partnerships with other organizations

72. In order to enhance the effectiveness of its technical assistance activities, the Branch continued to work with many partners: the Commonwealth, the Financial Action Task Force, IAEA, ICAO, the International Development Law Organization, IMF, the International Organization for Migration, INTERPOL, the Office for Disarmament Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, OHCHR, the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons, United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre, the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute and the World Bank. It also continued to work with a large number of regional and subregional partners, such as the African Union, ASEAN, the Central African Economic and Monetary Community, the Caribbean Community and its Common Market Secretariat, the Centre on Global Counterterrorism Cooperation, the Commonwealth of Independent States, the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf, the Council of Europe, the Economic Community of Central African States, ECOWAS, the European Union and Eurojust, the Indian Ocean Commission, the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), the Global Counterterrorism Forum, the International Law Enforcement Academy, the Jakarta Centre for Law Enforcement Cooperation, LAS, the Naif Arab University for Security Sciences, the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States, the Organization of American States and its Inter-American Committee against Terrorism, OSCE, the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization, the Southeast European Law Enforcement Centre, the Regional Arms Control Verification and Implementation Assistance Centre, the Regional Cooperation Council, the Southern African Development Community, the South Asian

Association for Regional Cooperation, the Southeast Asia Regional Centre for Counter-Terrorism and the West African Economic and Monetary Union.

73. Throughout 2013, UNODC further strengthened the exchange of information with the European Union and engaged in regular policy dialogue. The Office participated in the meeting of the European Union Council Working Group on Terrorism that took place on 25 February in Brussels. The Branch participated in a meeting of the United Nations-European Union policy dialogue on counter-terrorism issues, held in Brussels on 10 June. In addition, the European Union and UNODC partnered in several capacity-building projects, including one on strengthening the capacities of the national criminal justice systems in South-East Asian countries, a project in Nigeria on strengthening criminal justice responses for multidimensional security (terrorism) and a project in the Maghreb on effective counter-terrorism investigations and prosecutions while respecting human rights and the rule of law.

74. Coordination and cooperation with OSCE with regard to activities in European and Central Asian countries was further strengthened throughout 2013. The Office participated in several OSCE initiatives, including several of its national round tables on the implementation of the International Convention for the Suppression of Terrorist Bombings. In addition, on 17 and 18 September, a regional expert workshop on the implementation of the universal legal instruments against terrorism as a way to enhance counter-terrorism cooperation in the Mediterranean basin was jointly organized by UNODC and OSCE in Malaga, Spain. That event focused on enhancing counter-terrorism cooperation, increasing the implementation of the international legal instruments to prevent and combat terrorism and facilitating dialogue between senior criminal justice officials from countries of the Mediterranean basin.

75. The Branch also closely cooperated with the Council of Europe, attending meetings of its Committee of Experts on Terrorism on 16 and 17 May and from 23 to 25 October in Strasbourg and Istanbul, respectively. In addition, the Branch participated in the International Conference on National and International Coordination in Counter-terrorism, which was held on 24 and 25 October in Istanbul and co-organized by the Council of Europe and the Undersecretariat of Public Order and Security of Turkey.

76. The Branch participated in numerous activities organized by IAEA (see section 2 (c) above).

77. The Office continued to partner with INTERPOL in the development and delivery of online activities through the UNODC Counter-Terrorism Learning Platform, as well as the delivery of specialized expertise during capacity-building activities. The Branch participated in several activities of INTERPOL, including in the second working group meeting of the INTERPOL e-extradition initiative, on the development of a secure, electronic workflow for the transmission of requests for extradition, held on 5 and 6 December in Paris.

78. The Branch and the Inter-American Committee against Terrorism enjoy a strong partnership in the Americas. They jointly organized, together with MECOOR (Mesa de Coordinación on terrorist financing), the coordination group of the secretariats of the Branch, the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate, the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission and the Financial Action Task

Force of South America against Money Laundering, several capacity-building activities related to countering terrorist financing, including specialized national workshops on countering terrorism and its financing, which were held from 7 to 9 May in Asunción, from 28 to 30 May in Panama City and from 28 to 1 November in Santa Cruz, Plurinational State of Bolivia.

79. Cooperation continued with ASEAN in the context of the UNODC South-East Asia subprogramme on partnership on criminal justice responses to terrorism, and close collaboration and joint activities were developed with the Southeast Asia Regional Centre for Counter-Terrorism and the Jakarta Centre for Law Enforcement Cooperation. In South Asia, cooperation continued with the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation.

80. The Branch is working closely with the African Union and its African Centre for Studies and Research on Terrorism, which support and complement one another in counter-terrorism assistance delivery for countries in Africa. The Branch also works in close partnership with the Security Sector Programme of IGAD in developing and delivering assistance to IGAD member countries in Eastern Africa.

81. The Office participated in sessions and working groups of the Global Counterterrorism Forum, in particular those on capacity-building in the Sahel, South-East Asia and the Horn of Africa, and on the rule of law and criminal justice. The Office also participated in the fourth meeting of the Global Counterterrorism Forum Coordinating Committee and its ministerial session that took place from 26 to 28 September 2013. In addition, the Branch organized several regional capacity-building workshops jointly with the Global Counterterrorism Forum, including a conference on regional cooperation in criminal matters in the Maghreb and Sahel, held in Casablanca, Morocco, from 16 to 18 April, which focused on challenges in the region and ways to strengthen such cooperation, and a regional workshop on effective counter-terrorism investigation and prosecution while respecting human rights and the rule of law, held on 12 and 13 November in Bangkok.

4. Cooperation with donors and recipients

82. In order to ensure that country and regional terrorism prevention programmes are tailored to national needs and take into account regional context, the Branch ensures full country ownership of such programmes and broad-based partnership and coordination for the implementation of its activities. To ensure this tailored approach, the Branch, including through its network of field offices, is in regular contact with the permanent missions in Vienna, Geneva and New York and the ministries of foreign affairs, justice and interior, and carries out extensive consultations.

83. The Office is most grateful to its donors for their invaluable substantive and financial support. As at December 2013, pledges and contributions had been made by the following Member States: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Colombia, Cyprus, Denmark, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Israel, Italy, Japan, Liechtenstein, Mexico, Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Romania, Saudi Arabia, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States, as well as the following organizations: the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate, the

European Union, IMO, INTERPOL, the International Organization of la Francophonie, the Indian Ocean Commission, OSCE, the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre and the Verification Research, Training and Information Centre (total contributions reached more than $74 million).

84. Some of the donor countries also supported the Branch through the participation of their national experts in its technical assistance activities.

C. Monitoring technical assistance activities and assessing their impact

85. The Office places emphasis on measuring and assessing the relevance and impact of its activities, as a means of ensuring that the technical assistance provided is efficient, sustainable and, most importantly, responsive to the changing needs and priorities of requesting Member States.

86. For that reason, the Branch has been making sustained efforts to integrate input from recipients of its technical assistance into management decisions. The collection and analysis of beneficiary feedback questionnaires is key in this regard, as it helps programme managers assess the relevance of the assistance provided in relation to the work and needs of recipients, identify areas where further assistance is needed and thereby improve future programming and maximize the impact of the technical assistance delivered.

87. Strong results-based management and reporting tools have helped the Branch to demonstrate measurable results. To date, the Branch has been using several tangible indicators, such as the increase in the number of States assisted by UNODC becoming parties to the international legal instruments, the number of assisted countries drafting legislation and the number of national officials trained.

III. Priorities of the Terrorism Prevention Branch for 2014

88. In 2014, the Branch will continue to enhance its legal technical assistance and capacity-building assistance to Member States aimed at preventing and countering terrorism. In particular, UNODC will focus on the following:

(a) Continuing to promote the universalization of the 18 international instruments to prevent and combat terrorism. In particular, UNODC will continue to promote the ratification of the three instruments that have not yet entered into force: the Amendment to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material, the Convention on the Suppression of Unlawful Acts Relating to International Civil Aviation and the Protocol Supplementary to the Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Seizure of Aircraft;

(b) Continuing to develop national and regional programmes for building national capacities and aimed at achieving the full implementation of all 18 international instruments to prevent and combat terrorism;

(c) Supporting the development of national expertise and capacity-building initiatives aimed at strengthening rule of law-based criminal justice responses to

terrorism at the national level aimed at bringing terrorists to justice as well as preventing terrorist acts from being committed;

(d) Continuing to refine the UNODC counter-terrorism strategy to strengthen its effectiveness, ensure that all of its projects and activities are guided by continued analysis of existing needs of recipients and ensure the full ownership of UNODC counter-terrorism programmes by the recipient States;

(e) Continuing to focus on developing and implementing tailored country-specific, long-term capacity-building assistance programmes and reinforce efforts to develop thematic knowledge and delivery tools, such as through its technical publications, its modules under the Counter-Terrorism Legal Training Curriculum and the web-based online training platform;

(f) Continuing to integrate human rights in the planning and development of project proposals and in the implementation of projects, including by reiterating the importance of respecting human rights, fundamental freedoms and the rule of law as an integral part of all effective programmes to prevent and suppress terrorism;

(g) Continuing to evaluate and refine the monitoring system of UNODC to ensure the effectiveness of its technical assistance activities by measuring the impact of those activities on beneficiaries in relation to knowledge and skills gained and relevance to their work;

(h) Continuing to ensure cost efficiency and transparency with donor Governments and relevant intergovernmental bodies, and further strengthening communication with Member States and factoring in their guidance and views in fine-tuning ongoing country-specific and regional projects;

(i) Continuing to strengthen cooperation within UNODC with the other United Nations counter-terrorism entities and with international and regional organizations in order to avoid duplication and ensure joint efforts in the delivery of technical assistance.

IV. Recommendations

89. The Commission may wish to express gratitude to donor countries for the voluntary contributions made available to UNODC and to invite Member States to increase the level of extrabudgetary and regular budget resources to enable the Office to continue to implement its work in the area of terrorism prevention.

90. The Commission may wish to encourage Member States to ratify and fully implement the 18 international instruments to prevent and combat terrorism, with assistance from UNODC as needed.

91. The Commission may wish to invite Member States to avail themselves of the capacity-building assistance provided by UNODC in order to build the capacity of criminal justice officials to effectively investigate, prosecute and adjudicate terrorism cases.

92. The Commission may wish to encourage Member States to increase international and regional cooperation in criminal matters related to terrorism by

developing formal and informal mechanisms to assist with requests for mutual legal assistance and extradition.

93. The Commission may wish to provide further guidance with regard to the technical assistance work of UNODC on the criminal justice aspects of countering terrorism, in terms of both content and delivery mechanisms, with a view to better tailoring the assistance to the evolving needs of Member States.